

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer system comprising:

a plurality of computers each capable of being mounted with a recording

5 medium having a unique recording medium ID;

a server capable of being connected with said computers via a network; and

a database associated with said server for accumulating user information

corresponding to said recording medium ID;

wherein said server comprises:

10 means for obtaining said recording medium ID from one of the plurality
of computers when that one computer issues a communication request, and

means for identifying said recording medium based on said recording
medium ID and said user information in said database,

whereby communication is able to be established between the server and

15 a computer specified by said one of the plurality of computers in response to said
identified recording medium.

2. A computer system according to Claim 1;

wherein the computer that issues a communication request is the same as the

20 computer that establishes communication with the server.

3. A computer system according to Claim 1;

wherein the computer that issues a communication request is different from the
computer that establishes communication with the server.

25

4. A computer system according to Claim 1;

wherein said recording medium contains at least one of programs and data; and

said computer system further comprising means for identifying may comprise means for identifying at least one of programs and data stored in the identified recording medium.

- 5 5. A computer system according to Claim 4;

said communication is able to be established for uploading or downloading of one of programs and data.

- 10 6. A computer system according to Claim 4 further including means for preparing data for performing at least one of upgrading and debugging for the identified at least one of programs and data, as said data for updating.

- 15 7. A computer system according to Claim 1; said computer system further comprising means for preparing data prepares said requested data corresponding to said status and identified recording medium;

wherein said recording medium contains at least one of programs and data; and wherein said computers each comprise means for supplying to said server the status of said at least one of programs and data stored in said recording medium.

- 20 8. A computer system according to Claim 1;

wherein each of said computers have unique device IDs; and

wherein said user information in said database contains information relating to said device ID;

- 25 said server further comprising

means for obtaining said device ID from said computers in the event that said computers request said data, and

means for identifying said computer based on said device ID and said

10061982-020102

user information in said database.

9. A computer system according to Claim 1;

wherein each user of each of said computers have unique user IDs; and

5 wherein said user information in said database contains information relating to said user ID;

said server further comprising

means for obtaining said user ID from said computers in the event that said computers request said data, and

10 means for identifying said user based on said user ID and said user information in said database.

10. A computer system according to Claim 1,

wherein the server is connected, via a network, further to at least one contents

15 server having digital contents.

11. A computer system according to Claim 10, said server further comprising:

means for performing verification of said recording medium based on said recording medium ID; and

20 means for judging whether or not to permit providing of said digital contents from said contents server to said computer, based on the results of said verification.

12. A computer system comprising:

25 a plurality of computers each capable of being mounted with a recording medium storing at least one of programs and data; and

a server capable of being connected with said computers via a network;

wherein said computers each comprise means for supplying to said server the

10061982.020102

status of said at least one of programs and data stored in said recording medium; and
wherein said server comprises

means for obtaining said status from said computers in the event that said
computers request data,

5 means for preparing said requested data according to said status, and
means for transmitting said requested data to said computer.

13. A computer system according to Claim 12, wherein said requested data is data for
updating at least one of programs and data stored in said recording medium.

10

14. A computer system according to Claim 12, further comprising at least one contents
server having digital contents, capable of being connected to said server via a network;
wherein said means for preparing data comprises means for sending said status
to said contents server; and

15

wherein said contents server comprises means for selecting said digital contents
according to said status and transmitting the selected digital contents to said server.

15. A computer system comprising:

a plurality of computers each capable of being mounted with a recording
20 medium storing at least one of programs and data; and
a server capable of being connected with said computers via a network;
wherein each of said computers have unique device IDs;
said server comprising

a database for accumulating user information corresponding to said
25 device ID,

means for obtaining said device ID from said computers in the event that
said computers request data,

10051982.020102

means for identifying said computer based on said device ID and said user information in said database,

means for preparing said requested data according to the identified computer, and

5 means for transmitting said requested data to said computer.

16. A computer system comprising:

a plurality of computers each capable of being mounted with a recording medium storing at least one of programs and data; and

10 a server capable of being connected with said computers via a network;

wherein each user of each of said computers have unique user IDs;

said server further comprising

a database for accumulating user information corresponding to said user

ID,

15 means for obtaining said user ID from said computers in the event that said computers request said data,

means for identifying said user based on said user ID and said user information in said database,

means for preparing said requested data according to the identified user,

20 and

means for transmitting said requested data to said computer.

17. A server capable of being mutually connected, via a network, with a plurality of computers each capable of being mounted with a recording medium having a unique recording medium ID, said verification server comprising:

25 a database for accumulating user information corresponding to said recording medium ID;

means for obtaining said recording medium ID from said computers in the event that said computers request data;

means for identifying said recording medium based on said recording medium ID and said user information in said database;

5 means for preparing said requested data according to the identified recording medium; and

means for transmitting said requested data to said computer.

18. A server capable of being connected, via a network, with a plurality of computers each capable of being mounted with a recording medium storing at least one of programs and data, said server comprising:

10 means for obtaining the status relating to said at least one of programs and data stored in said recording medium from said computers in the event that said computers request data;

15 means for preparing said requested data according to said status; and

means for transmitting said requested data to said computer.

19. A method of processing in a computer system comprising a plurality of computers each capable of being mounted with a recording medium having a unique recording medium ID, and a server capable of being connected with said computers via a network;

20 wherein the processing at said server comprises

a step for obtaining said recording medium ID from said computers in the event that said computers request data,

25 a step for inputting user information corresponding to said recording medium ID from a database,

a step for identifying said recording medium based on said recording medium ID and said user information,

10051932-020102

a step for preparing said requested data according to the identified recording medium, and

a step for transmitting said requested data to said computer.

- 5 20. A method of processing in a computer system comprising a plurality of computers each capable of being mounted with a recording medium storing at least one of programs and data, and a server capable of being connected with said computers via a network;

wherein the processing at said server comprises

- 10 a step for obtaining the status relating to said at least one of programs and data stored in said recording medium from said computers in the event that said computers request data,

a step for preparing said requested data according to said status, and

a step for transmitting said requested data to said computer.

15

21. A computer capable of being mounted with a recording medium storing at least one of programs and data, and capable of being connected with a server via a network, ;

said recording medium having a unique ID; and further

said computer comprising:

20

means supplying at least one of an ID unique to said computer, an ID unique to said recording medium and an ID unique to said user, to said server as verification information, in the event of making a request for data to said server following operations made by a user; and

means for receiving the result of verification from the server.

25

22. A recording medium for using in a computer system which comprises a plurality of computers, said recording medium storing at least one of programs and data and being

10061982.020102

capable of being mounted into a computer, wherein the method recorded in the programs comprises;

a step of managing a status relating to the at least one of programs and data stored in the recording medium, with the recording medium ID,

5 a step of transmitting request for data the server;

a step for receiving from the server data prepared as requested in response to the status by the server, whereby the recording medium is updated in response thereto.

23. A program for use in a computer system comprising a plurality of computers each capable of being mounted with a recording medium having a unique recording medium ID, and a server capable of being connected with said computers via a network;

wherein the program that record the processing at said server comprises

a step for obtaining said recording medium ID from said computers in the event that said computers request data,

15 a step for inputting user information corresponding to said recording medium ID from a database,

a step for identifying said recording medium based on said recording medium ID and said user information,

a step for preparing said requested data according to the identified recording medium, and

a step for transmitting said requested data to said computer.

24. A program for use in a computer system comprising a plurality of computers each capable of being mounted with a recording medium storing at least one of programs and data, and a server capable of being connected with said computers via a network;

25 wherein the program that record the processing at said server comprises

a step for obtaining the status relating to said at least one of programs and

10661982-020102

data based on a unique ID given to said recording medium from said computers in the event that said computers request data,

a step for preparing said requested data according to said status, and

a step for transmitting said requested data to said computer.